

**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy[Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry[Breen.Barry@epa.gov]; Cheatham, Reggie[cheatham.reggie@epa.gov]; Natarajan, Nitin[Natarajan.Nitin@epa.gov]  
**From:** Tulis, Dana  
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 10:05:48 PM  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

Sorry Mathy, we could not get a hold of anyone. I finally got through to Martin, after 3 calls today, he is in Durango heading to a public meeting, he gave me the name of the sediment expert, I am calling him now. You know I have been working this since the minute I got in today.

Dana S. Tulis  
Deputy Office Director

Office of Emergency Management, EPA

Office - 202-564-8600

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**From:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 6:02 PM  
**To:** Tulis, Dana  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George; Woodyard, Josh  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

Dana: As I thought I made very clear – I discussed with Shawn that he wanted us take the lead on this question. As we discussed this is exclusively an OSWER question. Since the press call already occurred let's get this done tomorrow morning but I want a better sense of agreement going forward of what we are taking the lead on, what we're coordinating with the UAC on and what UAC is taking the lead on. I thought we agreed on the finalizing initial high level message on this for the call at 5.

**rom:** Tulis, Dana  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:57 PM

**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George; Woodyard, Josh  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

Mathy, I know, we are waiting to hear from the Region, we were trying not to step on them. Do you still need something tonight, we are setting up calls tomorrow with the Region to flesh out the data issue, etc. I just tried to call Martin and he put me on hold, its been very hard to talk to the Region today.

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**From:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:53 PM  
**To:** Tulis, Dana  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

Dana: I don't think this does it. We discussed broader statements that we need to lead with that describes that in general what EPA does for contaminated sediments in rivers – sampling, remediation techniques, etc. That EPA is committed to following its procedure to determining the presence of contamination in sediment and conducting cleanup following existing procedures. ...

**From:** Tulis, Dana  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:47 PM  
**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George

**Subject:** RE: heads up

Yes, who do I get this to? Here is a sentence on sampling,

A draft sampling plan is being developed to address sampling and analysis of sediment and well-water. This plan is being developed jointly by Regions 8, 6 and 9. Sampling will continue throughout the impacted area as well as ahead of the plume to establish baseline water quality.

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**From:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:36 PM  
**To:** Tulis, Dana  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

**See revisions to last sentence**

**EPA Independent Investigation of Abandoned Mine Release into Animas River; San Juan County, CO**

On 8/5, an EPA and Colorado State Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety team was working to investigate and address contamination at the abandoned Gold King Mine in San Juan County, CO. This work resulted in a large release of mine wastewater into the upper portions of Cement Creek. EPA is actively responding to the site. EPA is committed to determining the facts associated the release through an open and transparent process. Toward that end, the review will be conducted in an independent fashion in accordance using accepted standards for such t reviews.

**From:** Tulis, Dana

**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:30 PM

**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy

**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin; Hull, George

**Subject:** RE: heads up

Adding in George to respond, he is working on getting the EPA website up.

Here is a quick statement on the investigation.

**EPA Independent Investigation of Abandoned Mine Release into Animas River; San Juan County, CO**

On 8/5, an EPA and Colorado State Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety team was working to investigate and address contamination at the abandoned Gold King Mine in San Juan County, CO. This work resulted in a large release of mine wastewater into the upper portions of Cement Creek. EPA is actively responding to the site. EPA is committed to determining the facts associated the release through an open and transparent process. Toward that end, EPA will identify an independent source to provide this review.

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**From:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 5:27 PM  
**To:** Tulis, Dana  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin  
**Subject:** RE: heads up

What messages were developed for the press call at 5?

Sent from my Windows Phone

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**From:** Tulis, Dana  
**Sent:** 8/10/2015 4:42 PM  
**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy  
**Cc:** Breen, Barry; Cheatham, Reggie; Natarajan, Nitin  
**Subject:** heads up

Very hard to get a hold of regional folks right now, Dave O, Deb McKean, etc are on route. As we understand it, they are working on a short term sediment plan, which we can use to develop a longer term sediment plan. They are trying to get us information within the hour from the UAC, if possible.

Dana S. Tulis

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